THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Tea Board has prepared a perspective plan to increase the production of tea to 1000 M.Kgs by 2000AD so as to obtain higher exportable surplus of tea. The Plan includes short-term measures such as optimisation of inputs and improved cultural practices, medium term measures such as irrigation, drainage, rejuvenation pruning and infilling as well as long term measures such as replanting and extension planting.

Trade Relations with Malaysia

744. SHRI RANJI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appeared in 'Indian Express' (Delhi edition) of 30th January, 1993 captioned "Vast scope in Malaysia for Indian businessmen"; and

(b) if so, what are the measures Government propose to take to develop trade relations between the two countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has established a Joint Commission with Malaysia to provide the necessary stimulus for enhancement of trade and cooperation between the two countries. Exchange of business delegations and participation in each others Trade Fairs is also encouraged. Due to these efforts there are 18 Indian Joint Ventures already functioning in Malaysia while 14 Joint Ventures are under implemenation in a wide variety of industries. Our exports to Malaysia have increased from a level of US $ 69.58 million in 1987-88 to US $ 201.36 million in 1991-92.

Trade between India and Germany

745. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are great possibilities for increasing trade between India and Germany;

(b) whether several suggestions have been made to review German interest in investment and trade with India and to boost Indo-German Cooperation; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to act upon the suggestions?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) In view of the potential for expanding Indo-German Economic Cooperation, the prospects of increased trade and investment are reviewed periodically. In discussions during the recent visit of the German Chancellor, action points were drawn up on either side which inter alia pertained to the expansion of trade and economic relations.

खाद्य तेलों का आयात

746. **श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज:**
डा० जिनेन्द्र कुमार जैन:

क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश तिलहनों के मामले मे अब आत्म-निर्भर होने की स्थिति में है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने खाद्य-तेलों का आयात करना बन्द कर दिया है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो वित्तीय वर्ष 1992-93 के दौरान खाद्य-तेलों की कुल कितनी मात्रा का आयात किया गया है और सरकार द्वारा इस प्रयोजन के लिए कितनी विदेशी मुद्रा व्यय की गयी है?

नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा